

## THE ESPN CLEVELAND NEARLYWED GAME

### OFFICIAL RULES

*(amended 5/17/2023 to include new tiebreaker scenarios)*

**NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE OR PAYMENT WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCE OF WINNING.**

850 ESPN Cleveland and Bookman & Son are giving fans a chance to win a pair of wedding bands in a “Nearlywed Game” competition this May. There will be three (3) couples selected to compete. To qualify, fans may head to [www.ESPNclevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNclevelandContests.com) starting Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 9AM EST to fill out the entry form and explain why them and their partner should be selected to prove they know each other. The qualification period will close on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 11:59PM EST. ESPN Cleveland and Bookman & Son will then select the three (3) couples to compete in the event based on the reasons given by fans on why they should be selected. If selected, fans must be available to attend the Nearlywed Game in person from 10AM to 12PM EST on Thursday, May 18, 2023, in the ESPN Cleveland studios located at 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113. During the Nearlywed Game, one group of partners will be asked questions about their respective partners in the studio, explaining and writing down their answers. Their partners will not be in the studio and will not be able to hear the answers. After the first group of partners answers, the other group of partners will enter the studio and answer the previously asked questions. Points will be awarded if both partners’ answers match. The couple who answers the most questions correctly will win the grand prize of new Bookman & Son wedding bands. For more contest details and all tie-breaking scenarios, please see below.

#### 1. HOW TO ENTER

- a. These rules govern The ESPN Cleveland Nearly Wed contest (the “Promotion”) being conducted by ESPN Cleveland, 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113 (“GKB”). The qualifying period for the Promotion will begin on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 9AM EST and end on Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 11:59PM EST. The Nearlywed Game competition will take place on Thursday, May 18, 2023, from 10AM to 12PM EST at the ESPN Cleveland Studios located at the address listed above.
- b. To qualify for the Promotion, eligible participants may enter via the following method(s): Fans will explain why they feel they should be one of three (3) couples selected to compete in the Nearlywed Game on May 18, 2023 in 1,000 characters or less and fill out the corresponding registration form online at [www.ESPNclevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNclevelandContests.com).
  - i. To qualify for the Promotion, fans may log onto [www.ESPNclevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNclevelandContests.com) and follow the links and instructions to enter the Promotion and submit their explanation of 1,000 characters or less on why they and their partner should be selected for the Promotion. They will also be asked to provide their first and last name, complete address, city, state, zip code, telephone number, date of birth and a valid email address in the online entry form. Only one internet entry per couple

and one internet entry per email address is permitted. Internet entries will be deemed made by the authorized account holder of the email address submitted at the time of entry. The authorized account holder is the natural person who is assigned to the email address by an internet access provider, online service provider, or other organization that is responsible for assigning an email address or the domain associated with the submitted email address. Multiple participants are not permitted to share the same email address. Entries submitted will not be acknowledged or returned. Use of any device to automate entry is prohibited. Proof of submission of an entry shall not be deemed proof of receipt by GKB. GKB is not responsible for entries not received due to difficulty accessing the internet, service outage or delays, computer difficulties, or other technological problems. Each entrant must agree to GKB's online submission release in order to submit their entry.

- ii. To participate in the Nearlywed Game itself, qualifiers must be able attend the competition from 10AM to 12PM EST in person during *The Really Big Show* at 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113 on May 18, 2023.

c. Only one internet entry per couple and one internet entry per email address is permitted.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS

- a. The Promotion is open to all persons who are 18 years of age or older and who reside in the United States of America. Employees of GKB, its subsidiary and affiliated entities, GKB's advertising and promotional agencies, its participating sponsors, other radio stations in the greater Cleveland metropolitan area and the members of their immediate families (spouse, parents, siblings, or children) and/or households (whether related or not) are ineligible to participate or win. This Promotion is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited.
- b. Listeners are eligible to win a prize in a Promotion conducted by GKB only once every seven (7) days and only once every thirty (30) days if the prize is valued over \$600. Only one (1) winner per household is permitted in any GKB promotion.
- c. The winner must provide valid government-issued photo identification and provide his or her complete address, date of birth and phone number to claim a prize.
- d. Entrants are required to provide truthful information and GKB will reject and delete any entry that it discovers to be false or fraudulent. GKB will disqualify any entry from individuals who do not meet the eligibility requirements.

## 3. PRIZES

- a. Three (3) qualifying prizes will be awarded in this Promotion. Each qualifying prize consists of the following:

- One (1) spot (per couple) in the ESPN Cleveland Newlywed Game presented by Bookman and Son taking place on Thursday, May 18, 2023, from 10AM to 12PM EST at the ESPN Cleveland studios in The Flats East Bank (1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113).
- b. One Grand Prize will be awarded in this Promotion. Each grand prize consists of the following:
- Voucher for two (2) wedding bands from Bookman & Son, redeemable for a total value of up to \$2,500
  - NOTE: If the total value of the wedding bands selected by the Grand Prize-winning couple exceeds \$2,500, the couple will be responsible for covering the cost of the difference.

The Approximate Retail Value (“ARV”) of the Grand Prize is \$2,500. The winner will be solely responsible for all taxes and all other fees and expenses not specified herein associated with the receipt and use of the Prize. GKB accepts no responsibility for repairing any real or supposed damage to any prize.

- c. The prize will be given to the winner upon completion of the contest and the winner will be asked to fill out the required paperwork on site. The winner will forfeit any prize or prize certificate not claimed on site. In the event that a prize or prize certificate is mailed to the winner, it will be with the prior written consent of the winner and therefore, winner assumes the risk of its loss. GKB is not responsible for the safe arrival of a prize or prize certificate.
- d. There is no substitution, transfer, or cash equivalent for prizes, except that GKB may, at its sole discretion, substitute prizes or cash of comparable value. The prizes are expressly limited to the item(s) listed above and unless otherwise expressly specified, do not include taxes, gratuities, or any other expenses. Other restrictions may apply.

#### 4. WINNER SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION

- a. Decisions of GKB management with respect to the Promotion are final.
- b. Qualifying couples will be selected on Friday, May 12, 2023. Qualifiers will be selected by ESPN Cleveland and Bookman & Son based on the written entries that are received. Qualifiers will be notified by an ESPN Cleveland representative by 9PM EST on Friday, May 12, 2023.
- c. All qualifying couples must be able to attend the Nearlywed Game from 10AM to 12PM EST in person during *The Really Big Show* on Thursday, May 18, 2023 in order to receive their qualifying spot. If they are unable to attend, or if they become unable to attend at any point ahead of the date of the Nearlywed Game, another qualifier will be selected as a replacement.

- d. The grand prize-winning couple will be determined by the Nearlywed Game on Thursday, May 18, 2023, by 1PM EST.
- e. The three qualifying couples will participate in a Nearlywed Game involving questions about your partner to determine the grand prize-winning couple, which will be conducted in person and on-air from approximately 10AM to 12PM EST during *The Really Big Show* on Thursday, May 18, 2023
- The Nearlywed Game will be conducted as follows:
    - Prior to the event, each couple will be asked to predict the total number of points they will get in case tiebreaker scenario B is needed. The most points a couple can earn is 70 points with three three (3) first-round questions worth five (5) points each, three (3) of the second-round questions worth ten (10) points each, and one of the second-round questions worth twenty-five (25) points.
    - During the first round, Partner B from each of the three (3) couples will leave the studio and be staged in a separate room where they won't be able to hear or see their respective partners' answers.
      - Partner A from each of the three (3) couples will be asked three (3) total questions by our hosts.
      - Each Partner A will answer the question in accordance with how they think their respective partner will answer. They should give a story on why they are picking that answer. Partner A will write the answer down.
      - Once all three (3) Partner As answers all three (3) questions, partner B will enter the studio.
      - Partner B will be asked the same three (3) questions.
      - After Partner B answers, partner A will hold up the answer they wrote down when they answered.
      - If Partner B's and Partner A's answers match, the couple will receive the corresponding round's point total per matching answer. If the answers do not match, they will receive zero (0) points.
      - Once all three (3) Partner Bs answer the three (3) questions, the final point totals for each contestant will be tallied.
    - During the second round, Partner A from each of the three (3) couples will leave the studio and be staged in a separate room where they won't be able to hear or see their respective partners' answers.
      - Partner B from each of the three (3) couples will be asked four (4) total questions by our hosts.
      - Each Partner B will answer the question in accordance with how they think their respective partner will answer. They should give a story on why they are picking that answer. Partner B will write the answer down.

- Once all three (3) Partner Bs answers all four (4) questions, partner A will enter the studio.
  - Partner A will be asked the same four (4) questions.
  - After Partner A answers, partner B will hold up the answer they wrote down when they answered.
  - If Partner A's and Partner B's answers match, the couple will receive the corresponding round's point total per matching answer. If the answers do not match, they will receive zero (0) points.
  - Once all three (3) Partner A's answer the four (4) questions, the final point totals for each contestant will be tallied.
- The couple with the most points will be recognized as the grand prize winner and the event will conclude.
  - In the event that multiple couples' final point totals are tied, the tied couples will be asked additional questions in a lightning round. Both partners in the tying couples will remain in the studio for the entire lightning round.
    - Partner A and Partner B for the tying couples will be positioned back-to-back.
    - Each Partner A will be asked one question by the hosts.
    - Partner A will answer the question according to how they think their partner will answer it by writing the answer down.
    - Once Partner A writes their answer down, partner B will answer the question out loud.
    - After Partner B answers, partner A will hold up the answer they wrote down.
    - If Partner A's and Partner B's answers match, the couple will receive one (1) point.
    - The couple with the highest point total at the conclusion of the lightning round will be declared the grand prize winner.
    - If there is a still a tie after the first lightning round, an additional lightning round will be played in the following format.
      - Partner B and Partner A for the tying couples will be positioned back-to-back.
      - Each Partner B will be asked one question by our hosts.
      - Partner B will answer the question according to how they think their partner will answer it by writing the answer down.
      - Once Partner B writes their answer down, partner A will answer the question out loud.
      - After Partner A answers, partner A will hold up the answer they wrote down.
      - If Partner A's and Partner B's answers match, the couple will receive one (1) point.

- The lightning round will continue alternating between Partner A and Partner B until a winner is declared.
  - If the tiebreaking lightning round has not yet determined a winner by 12:55 PM EST, the tiebreaker will be based on the couple's prediction prior to the start of the contest regarding the total number of points they would accumulate.
    - Tied couples will disclose their predictions to ESPN Cleveland staff prior to the start of the contest, and the couple whose prediction was the closest without going over their actual final pre-lightning round total will be declared the grand prize winner.
    - If all the tied couples' predictions exceeded their final pre-lightning round total, the couple whose prediction was the closest will be declared the grand prize winner.
- f. The winning couple must execute and return any required affidavit of eligibility and/or liability/publicity release on site following the competition or prize will be forfeited. If a potential winner cannot be contacted, fails to sign and return the required affidavit of eligibility and/or liability/publicity release within the required time period, or if a prize or prize notification is returned as undeliverable, the potential winner forfeits the prize.

## 5. CONDITIONS

- a. Payments of all federal, state and local taxes are solely the responsibility of the winner. The winner will be required to complete and submit an IRS Form W-9 with the winner's full Social Security Number or the equivalent for receipt of any prize valued at \$600 or more or for any prizes awarded by GKB in a calendar year with an aggregate value of \$600 or more. Failure to submit a complete W-9 or equivalent will result in forfeiture of the prize. Such winnings of \$600 or more will be reported to the IRS.
- b. By participating in the Promotion, the winner agrees to have the winner's name, voice and likeness used in any advertising or broadcasting material relating to the Promotion without additional financial or other compensation, and, where legal, to sign a publicity release confirming such consent prior to acceptance of the prize.
- c. Prior to awarding any prize(s) or prize certificate(s), GKB, in its sole discretion, may require Promotion winner(s) (and any travel companion(s) or guest(s)) to sign a liability release, agreeing to release and hold harmless GKB, its subsidiary and affiliated entities, their respective officers, shareholders, directors, employees, agents and representatives and all of their successors and assigns from and against any and all claims or liability arising directly or indirectly from the prize and participation in the Promotion.

- d. If for any reason this Promotion cannot be executed as planned, including, but not limited to, as a result of infection by computer virus, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other causes beyond the control of GKB that corrupt or affect the security, administration, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the Promotion, or if the Promotion is compromised or becomes technically corrupted in any way, electronically or otherwise, the Station reserves the right to cancel, terminate, suspend, or modify the Promotion. If the Promotion is terminated before the original end date, GKB reserves the right to select the winner(s) by random drawing from among all eligible non-suspect entries received as of the termination time/date or otherwise modify the procedure for selecting winner(s).
- e. GKB, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to disqualify any person tampering with the entry process or the operation of GKB's website. Failure to comply with the rules of the Promotion may result in a contestant's disqualification and/or forfeiture of any prize or prizes. If GKB makes a good faith determination that an entrant has cheated or committed fraudulent activity in connection with a Promotion, GKB reserves the right to disqualify that entrant from entering and/or winning future Promotions and to prosecute and seek damages to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- f. GKB reserves the right to make changes in the rules of the Promotion, including, without limitation, the substitution of a prize of equivalent value, which will become effective upon announcement. If due to circumstances beyond the control of GKB, any competition or prize-related event or travel is delayed, rescheduled, postponed or cancelled, GKB reserves the right, but not the obligation, to cancel, terminate, suspend, or modify the Promotion and shall not be required to award a substitute prize.
- g. GKB is not responsible for typographical or other errors in the printing, the offering or the administration of the Promotion or in the announcement of a prize.
- h. For a copy of these Official Rules, send a self-addressed stamped envelope for receipt by Thursday, May 18, 2023, to "The ESPN Cleveland Nearlywed Game – Official Rules," Attn: Promotions, GKB 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113. For the names of the prize winners send a self-addressed stamped envelope for receipt by Saturday, July 7, 2023, to the above address marked "The ESPN Nearlywed Game – Winner List." The Official Rules and the Winner List (when completed) shall also be available during regular business hours at the main offices of GKB and may be posted online at [www.ESPNClevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNClevelandContests.com).

## 6. PRIVACY

- a. By use of GKB's website or by entering the Promotion through GKB's website, you agree to the website's Terms of Use Agreement located at [www.ESPNClevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNClevelandContests.com) and to the use of your personal information as described in the Privacy Policy located at [www.ESPNClevelandContests.com](http://www.ESPNClevelandContests.com).

Administrator: GKB (ESPN Cleveland, 1109 Old River Road, Cleveland, OH 44113)

Sponsor: Bookman & Son